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Rural District of Amesbury

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ANNUAL REPORT

on

The Health of the Area

and

The Work of the Public Health Department

for the year

1963



EAST WILTS UNITED DISTRICTS

MARLBOROUGH M.B.

MARLBOROUGH AND RAMSBURY R.D., PEWSEY R.D., AMESBURY R.D.

*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

DR. H. I. LOCKETT,
1 THE GREEN, MARLBOROUGH

Office : Marlborough 487
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RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY

East Wilts United Districts (M.O.H.) Office,
1, The Green,
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Telephone 487.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963, in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, and Ministry of Health Circular 1/64.

During the year 158 residents in the Rural District died compared with 198 in the previous year. The death rate of 9.7 deaths per 1,000 population, which has been adjusted by means of a comparability factor which enables the rate to be fairly compared with that for the country as a whole or with other areas, was lower than both County and National rates.

Eighteen children died during the year. In the case of 9 of these, death occurred within the first few days after birth from such causes as prematurity or important congenital malformations. The remainder died within the first few months of life, chiefly as a result of respiratory infections, although two accidental deaths occurred, as mentioned below. A brief analysis of the causes of these childhood deaths is as follows:—

Birth injury or prematurity	5
Congenital malformations	5
Respiratory infection	6
Accident	2

The two accidental deaths concerned a 3 months old Boscombe Down child from asphyxia, one of the so-called “cot deaths” which occur so mysteriously and tragically around this age, and a four months old child living at a caravan site in Amesbury who died from injury received in falling from a settee.

Four road accident deaths were recorded in respect of residents in the district. Brief details are as follows:—

Male, 67, motor-scooter in collision with cat.
Female, 46, knocked down by W.D. vehicle.
Male, 29, found in overturned car.
Male, 24, car ran off road.

Two suicides took place: a 35 year old civilian from Bulford Camp shot himself and a 61 year old woman living at a caravan site in Amesbury took an overdose of a barbiturate drug.

The live birth rate for 1963, adjusted to allow for population structure, was 26.9, considerably higher than both County and National rates. Thirty-six of these births were illegitimate and the illegitimacy rate of 5.1% is an increase on the previous year's rate of 3.2%. The infant mortality rate, 25.7, compares unfavourably with the County and National rates and is higher than last year's figure of 20.1. However, as pointed out in previous Reports, rates based on relatively small absolute numbers can fluctuate widely from year to year and too much significance should not be attached to such rates. By contrast, the stillbirth rate was a low one for 1963; 8.5 per 1,000 total births.

Of the 317 cases of infectious disease notified by practitioners in the area, 300 were cases of measles. Some small family outbreaks of sonne type dysentery came to our notice during Spring and a single case of flexner type infection. A young woman who had been on holiday in Zermatt during the typhoid outbreak developed this disease and this proved rather resistant to treatment. However, it was eventually cured and extensive follow-up tests showed that she had not become a "carrier" of the infection. Two other persons resident in the area also developed typhoid fever following a visit to Zermatt, but these cases were diagnosed in a military hospital situated in an adjacent district and are therefore not represented in the table of notifications. These cases cleared up more speedily, again without developing a true "carrier" state.

Six new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified compared with 4 in the previous year. With one exception, a child of 5 infected by his mother, they were in the 40 to 60 age group. Three of the tuberculosis notifications referred to Service families. The source of infection was thought to be Ireland in two cases and Singapore or possibly Eire in the third.

Regarding protection against infectious diseases by immunisation, I am once again indebted to Dr. Lycett, the County Medical Officer, for supplying statistics concerning work carried out by General Practitioners and Medical Officers of the County Health Department in respect of residents in this district. Diphtheria immunisation (combined in most cases with protection against whooping cough and tetanus) was completed in 179 of the 700 children born during the year. Some of these children would be too young to be expected to have had a complete course by the end of 1963, and to obtain some idea of the immunisation state of the child population at risk it is more useful to consider how the 633 children born in 1962 have fared. Of these, the figures suggest that 145 had a complete course of primary immunisation against diphtheria in 1962, and a further 313 in 1963, giving a total of 458, that is 72% (no account of such factors as migration or infant mortality has been taken in arriving at this rough estimate).

Immunisation against poliomyelitis was carried out largely by the use of an oral vaccine. A rough estimate of the proportion of babies protected can be made by considering again the 633 children born during 1962. Of these, 26 received a complete course of protection in 1962 and 191 in 1963, giving a total of 217, only 34%.

Again, only 156 primary vaccinations against smallpox were performed during the year (at all ages) and clearly a large proportion of the child population is not receiving protection against this dangerous disease, the possibility of the entry of which into this country from time to time cannot be ignored, as comparatively recent events demonstrated.

A number of old people living alone were seen during the year where the possibility of action for compulsory removal to hospital or Part III accommodation under the provisions of section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, had to be considered, but in each case where removal was necessary this was achieved on an informal basis without recourse to the legal powers.

I would like to conclude these introductory remarks by expressing my thanks to all members of the District Council staff for their helpfulness on numerous occasions, to my Clerical Assistant, Miss G. M. Boswell, more especially for the attention she has devoted to the preparation of this Report, and to my colleague, Dr. F. J. G. Lishman, who has kindly acted as my deputy whenever it has been necessary for me to be away from the district.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. I. LOCKETT,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1964.

Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health	H. I. LOCKETT, M.B., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector	I. L. FISHER, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I., Certified Meat and Food Inspector
Additional Public Health Inspector	R. WILKINSON, C.S.J.B., M.A.P.H.I.
Rodent Operator	R. H. COOMBES
Clerk (M.O.H. Office)	MISS G. M. BOSWELL
Clerk (R.D.C. Office)	MRS. P. WILSON (part-time)

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for the Borough of Marlborough and the Rural Districts of Marlborough and Ramsbury and Pewsey. These combined districts have a population of 62,440 and an area of 235,289 acres. They have appointed a Joint Committee, the East Wiltshire United Districts (Medical Officer of Health) Committee, to deal with all matters relating to the office of Medical Officer of Health. The Medical Officer also performs duties for the Wiltshire County Council under the National Health Service, Education and Mental Health Acts.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	63,455
Number of parishes	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Population, Registrar-General's mid-year estimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,510
Number of inhabited houses, flats and bungalows	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,600
Number of houses, flats and bungalows owned by the Council	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,347
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£830,760
Product of a Penny Rate (estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£3,430

VITAL STATISTICS

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births	...	...	...	358	342	700
Legitimate	...	...	...	341	323	664
Illegitimate	...	...	...	17	19	36
Still Births	...	...	...	2	4	6
Deaths of Infants under one year						
of age	...	...	...	10	8	18
Deaths from all causes	...	...	...	85	73	158

			<i>Crude</i>	<i>Adjusted</i>
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	27.4	26.9
Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	6.2	9.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births				8.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	...	...		25.7
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Births				21.2

COMPARISONS, 1963

	<i>Amesbury R.D.</i>	<i>Wiltshire County</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	26.9	20.21	18.2
Death Rate per 1,000 population	9.7	11.5	12.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	25.7	20.75	20.9

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1963

<i>Cause of Death</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
3	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasms, stomach	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
11	„ „ lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
12	„ „ breast	...	...	...	...	—	4	4
13	„ „ uterus	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	7	7	14
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	7	7	14
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	20	9	29
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	4	6	10
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	4	10	14
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	8	6	14
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Totals						85	73	158

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1963, Classified in Age Groups

Notifiable Diseases	Number of Cases Notified										
	Age Groups										
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 3 years	3 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 years and over	Unknown
Anthrax ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Brucellosis ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Diphtheria ...	6	|	|	|	3	2	|	1	|	|	|
Dysentery ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Acute encephalitis ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Erysipelas ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Food poisoning ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Measles ...	300	11	83	72	126	3	4	1	|	|	|
Meningococcal infections ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Paratyphoid fevers ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Pneumonia ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Acute poliomyelitis ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Puerperal pyrexia ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Scarlet fever ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Smallpox ...	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	6	|	|	|	1	|	|	1	4	|	|
Tuberculosis, other ...	2	|	|	|	|	|	1	1	|	|	|
Typhoid fever ...	1	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Whooping cough ...	2	|	|	|	1	1	|	|	|	|	|
Totals ...	317	11	83	72	131	6	6	4	4	—	—

IMMUNISATION STATISTICS, 1963

(By courtesy of the County Medical Officer)

(1) Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation

<i>Year of Birth</i>		1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954-58	1949-53
Primary immunisation completed during 1963	Diph.	179	313	19	5	2	40	558
	Wh/c.	163	303	16	5	1	2	490
	Tet.	179	313	19	5	2	37	555
Reinforcing injections administered during 1963	Diph.	—	49	150	27	15	177	2
	Wh/c.	—	22	79	20	4	43	—
	Tet.	—	40	133	25	12	140	2

(2) Smallpox Vaccination

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Months</i>				<i>Years</i>			
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-14	15+
Vaccinations	21	14	12	6	42	23	16	22
Re-vaccinations	—	—	—	—	3	21	23	57

(3) Poliomyelitis Immunisation

<i>Age Group</i>	2nd inj.	3rd inj.	4th inj.	3 oral doses	3rd oral after 2 inj.	4th oral after 2 inj., plus 1 oral dose	4th oral after 3 inj. or 3 oral
Children born in 1963	3	—	—	30	—	—	—
Children born in 1962	34	31	—	160	4	3	—
Children born in 1961	8	30	—	162	6	—	4
Children and young persons born 1943-60	15	30	11	148	8	11	316
Young persons born 1933-42	1	13	1	50	—	1	5
Others	3	11	—	44	3	—	3
Totals	64	115	12	594	21	15	328

AMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector for the year 1963

Redworth House,
Amesbury,
Salisbury, Wilts.
Telephone 3255.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fifteenth Annual Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector for the year 1963. The Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 1/64.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and co-operation given during the year.

It also gives me pleasure to place on record my appreciation of the members of my staff for the ready assistance in carrying out the duties of the Department, and to express my thanks to colleagues in other Departments for their co-operation at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

I. L. FISHER,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

15th June, 1964.

SANITARY INSPECTION IN THE AREA

Number and Nature of Visits or Inspections during 1963

GENERAL SANITATION

Number of Inspections re Water Supply ...	...	...	...	29
Number of Inspections re Drainage of Property ...	...	...	...	879
Number of Inspections re Keeping of Animals ...	...	...	...	13
Number of Inspections of Fried Fish Shops ...	...	...	...	2
Number of Inspections of Movable Dwellings ...	...	...	...	70
Number of Inspections under Factories Act ...	...	...	...	39
Number of Inspections of Outworkers Premises ...	...	...	...	4
Number of Inspections of Bakehouses ...	...	...	...	20
Number of Inspections of Licensed Premises ...	...	...	...	4
Number of Inspections re Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	...	...	...	9
Number of Inspections under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	18
Number of Inspections of Schools ...	...	...	...	2
Number of Inspections under Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957 ...	...	...	...	14
Number of Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits ...	...	...	...	146
Number of Visits re Sampling of Water Supplies ...	...	...	...	108
Number of Visits re Sampling of Sewage Effluent ...	...	...	...	19

HOUSING

Number of Houses inspected under Public Health Act ...	...	65	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspections) ...	...	82	
		<hr/>	147
Number of Houses inspected under Housing Acts ...	...	81	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspection) ...	...	502	
		<hr/>	583
Number of Houses inspected re Overcrowding ...	...	...	5
Number of Miscellaneous Housing Visits ...	...	...	112
Number of Houses inspected re Verminous Conditions ...	...	5	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspection) ...	...	13	
		<hr/>	18
Number of Property Owners/Agents and Builders interviewed ...	...	...	262

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases ...	...	...	16
Number of Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits ...	...	...	131

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS

Number of Visits to Poultry Packing Station ...	...	...	...	22
Number of Visits to Knackers Yard ...	...	...	...	12
Number of Visits to Butchers Shops ...	...	...	...	12
Number of Visits to Fishmongers and Poulterers ...	...	...	...	1
Number of Visits to Grocers ...	...	...	...	45
Number of Visits to Dairies and Milkshops ...	...	...	...	37
Number of Visits to Ice-Cream Premises ...	...	...	...	20
Number of Visits to Greengrocers and Fruiterers ...	...	...	...	3
Number of Visits to Food Preparing Premises ...	...	...	...	36
Number of Miscellaneous Food Visits ...	...	...	...	28
			<hr/>	2866

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1961

Inspections of factories within the district have shown that conditions are generally satisfactory. Any defects found were of a minor nature, and by the end of the year had been remedied as the result of informal action. It was not necessary for the Council to serve any Notice to rectify any contraventions of the Acts.

The following is a list of factories in the district:—

Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	7
Engineering, including Garages	...	...	23
Electricity Generating	...	...	1
Joinery, woodworking	...	...	13
Testing of Flow Meters	...	...	1
Milk Pasteurising	...	...	1
Laundering	...	...	2
Corn Milling	...	...	1
Manufacture of Explosives	...	...	2
Vehicle Painting	...	...	2
Tailoring	...	...	1
Aircraft Testing	...	...	1
Instrument Repairs	...	...	1
Fibre Glass and Resin Moulding	...	...	2
Cine Film Camera Testing	...	...	1
Cinematograph Film Manufacture	...	...	1
Oil Gas	...	...	1
Radio and Electrical Equipment Repairs	...	...	1
Fruit Juice and Bottle Washing	...	...	1
Upholstery and Furniture Repairs	...	...	1
Packing of Plastic Products	...	...	1
Poultry Processing	...	...	1
Knackers Yards	...	...	1
			67

OUTWORKERS

The number of persons in the district engaged on outwork remains very small. All are engaged in the manufacture of knitted wear by firms situated outside the area, and their names and addresses are notified to the Council by the appropriate authorities. Inspections were made of the premises, but no action was found to be necessary.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection service has operated satisfactorily throughout the year and all parishes in the district enjoy a weekly service.

All refuse collected in the district is removed to one central tip, situated at Porton Firs. It is at this depot where the separation of salvagable materials such as waste paper, metal and rags takes place. All materials so salvaged have been sold to contractors and the receipts have continued to be satisfactory.

HOUSING

The provision of adequate and satisfactory housing accommodation is a matter which is constantly in the mind of the Council. Experience over the last few years has shown that there is an increasing demand for the smaller type of accommodation, viz., two bedroomed houses and bungalows, and to meet this need the Council has decided that approximately fifty per cent of the dwellings to be erected under their immediate housing programme shall be of these types. Part of the demand for this smaller accommodation comes from existing Council house tenants who no longer require the larger type of house, and the rehousing of these tenants into the smaller accommodation will release their houses for occupation by the larger families.

The building programme which the Council hopes to commence in the next financial year will include 74 two bedroomed bungalows, 14 two bedroomed houses, 64 three bedroomed houses, and 4 two bedroomed maisonettes in the parishes of Amesbury, Bulford, Durrington, Shrewton and Winterbourne Gunner, and a scheme of grouped accommodation for aged and handicapped persons at Shrewton. This latter scheme will comprise 12 one bedroomed bungalows together with a warden's flat and ancillary buildings.

During the year work was commenced on the erection of eleven bungalows at Shrewton, some of which are to be allocated to persons residing in properties which are the subject of a Clearance Order. At the end of the year the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was awaited to the tenders for the erection of 6 three bedroomed houses at Figcheldean and 4 two bedroomed maisonettes at Newton Tony. Work was also well in hand with the site works on the large estate to be developed at Bulford.

The demand for land for development by private enterprise has continued throughout the year and several schemes for estate development in substantial numbers have been approved. During the year 108 houses or bungalows were completed and a further 124 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

The number of applications for Discretionary and Standard Grants towards the cost of the improvement and modernisation of older houses has remained fairly constant, and during the year Discretionary Grants amounting to £7,104 were made in respect of 24 houses where such works were completed. A further 8 dwellings were improved with the aid of Standard Grants, these Grants totalling £778. Following the survey carried out in response to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 42/62, the owners of properties considered suitable for modernisation and improvement were so advised and offered the Council's assistance should they wish to improve their properties. A number of enquiries were received and it is hoped that following discussions with these owners suitable schemes will be submitted.

The works of modernisation improvement to thirty-one pre-war Council houses was completed during the year and the Council also authorised the calling of tenders for similar schemes in respect of a further thirty of their older houses in the parishes of Tilshead, Orcheston, Woodford, Netton and Durnford. The Council also converted their property known as "Cranleigh," Salisbury Road, Amesbury, into two self-contained flats.

The following table shows the action taken by the Department during the year under the Housing and Public Health Acts:—

(i) Inspection for housing defects under Public Health Act	...	65
(ii) Inspection for housing defects under Housing Acts	...	82
(iii) Number of dwellings so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	...	9
(iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	...	75
(v) Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	...	33

Action under Statutory Powers

A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 12, Housing Act, 1957		
(i) Number of dwellings where Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	—
(ii) Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal Notices		
(a) By owners	...	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	—
B. Proceedings under Public Health Act		
(i) Number of dwellings where Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	—
(ii) Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal Notices		
(a) By owners	...	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	—
C. Proceedings under section 11, Housing Act, 1936, and section 16, Housing Act, 1957		
(i) Number of Demolition Orders made	...	5
(ii) Number of houses demolished as result of Demolition Orders		*13
(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted	...	—
(iv) Number of Undertakings completed	...	—
D. Proceedings under sections 42, 43, 46 and 48, Housing Act, 1957		
(i) Number of houses in Clearance Area upon which Demolition Orders were made	...	—
(ii) Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders		—
(iii) Number of houses in Clearance Area which have been retained as temporary accommodation	...	—
E. Proceedings under section 12, Housing Act, 1936, section 3, Housing Act, 1949, section 10, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and sections 17, 18 and 27, Housing Act, 1957		
(i) Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were made	...	1
(ii) Number of dwellings closed as a result of Closing Orders or Undertakings by owners	...	1
(iii) Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit	...	—
F. Proceedings under section 76, Housing Act, 1957		
(i) Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during year	...	2
(ii) Number of cases of overcrowding abated during year	...	—

*Includes 2 houses demolished by Crown Departments under Slum Clearance procedures by agreement with the Council.

RODENT CONTROL

The control measures recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are closely followed by the Rodent Operator under the supervision of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

The services of the Rodent Operator, which are shared with two neighbouring authorities, have once again proved adequate, and the systematic survey of the district which was carried out throughout the year showed the general situation to be satisfactory. All complaints received were dealt with promptly and were found to be mostly of a minor nature.

The following table sets out the work carried out by the Rodent Operator during the year:—

	<i>Type of Property Non-Agricultural</i>				
	(1) <i>Local Auth- ority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)</i>	(3) <i>All other</i>	(4) <i>Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)</i>	(5) <i>Agric- ultural</i>
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	24	4410	176	4610	127
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	—	52	14	66	3
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat Major	—	—	—	—	1
Common Rat Minor	—	47	14	61	2
Ship Rat Major	—	—	—	—	—
Ship Rat Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Major	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Minor	—	5	—	5	—
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	6	898	52	956	53
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat Major	1	—	—	1	1
Common Rat Minor	5	48	—	53	7
Ship Rat Major	—	—	—	—	—
Ship Rat Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Major	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Minor	—	2	—	2	2

	<i>Type of Property Non-Agricultural</i>				
	(1) <i>Local Auth- ority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)</i>	(3) <i>All other</i>	(4) <i>Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)</i>	(5) <i>Agric- ultural</i>
4. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	—	—	—	—
5. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections	29	955	67	1051	56
6. Number of infested properties (in Sections 2, 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority	6	91	14	111	4
7. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	29	101	15	145	4
8. Number of notices served under section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under section 4 of the Act.	—	—	—	—	—
10. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
11. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out		N I L			

WATER SUPPLY

Regional Water Supply

The work of laying the main from Durrington to the War Department's Reservoir at Knighton Down was completed during the year. It was estimated that the supply should be available early in 1964.

An extension to the Totterdown link main also made to afford a supply of water to properties in the Porton Road area of Amesbury.

The reservoir to serve the properties in the Firs Road area of Winterbourne was completed and put into service during the year.

Small extensions have been made to service properties on new housing estates.

Forty-six water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and all of these proved satisfactory.

One water sample was submitted for chemical examination. A copy of the report is given below.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	Clear, colourless water: no deposit	
Chemical	...	...	...	...	Parts per million
Reaction	...	...	...	...	Alkaline pH 7.3
Saline and free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from premanganate in three hours at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	0.07
Chlorides	...	...	...	...	16
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	8.0
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	245
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	...	205
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	...	40
Metals	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Opinion: Satisfactory.					

Bulford and Durrington

This supply continued in use until June, 1963, when the work of installing new pumps and chlorinating plant in connection with the supply to the War Department at Knighton Down was commenced. The supply to the parishes of Bulford and Durrington is now obtained from the Regional Water Supply source at Newton Tony via the Totterdown link main which was laid in 1962.

Small extensions have been made to service properties on new housing estates.

Twelve water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and all of these proved satisfactory. One sample was submitted for chemical examination, and a copy of the report is given below.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	Clear, colourless water: no deposit	
Chemical	...	...	...	...	Parts per million
Reaction	...	...	...	...	Alkaline pH 7.1
Saline and free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.02
Oxygen absorbed from premanganate in three hours at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	0.07
Chlorides	...	...	...	...	22
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	11
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	260
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	...	205
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	...	55
Metals	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Opinion: Satisfactory.					

Shrewton

This supply continued to work satisfactorily during the year.

The mains were extended to serve properties being erected at Furlong Way.

Fifteen water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and all of these proved satisfactory. One sample was submitted for chemical examination, and a copy of the report is given below:

Physical Characters	...	...	...	Clear, colourless water: no deposit	
Chemical	...	...	...	...	Parts per million
Reaction	...	...	...	...	Alkaline pH 7.2
Saline and free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	- Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.02
Oxygen absorbed from premanganate in three hours at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	0.03
Chlorides	...	...	...	...	15
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	5.0
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	220
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	...	160
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	...	60
Metals	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Opinion: Satisfactory.					

Other Supplies

The undermentioned parishes obtain a supply of water from services not belonging to the Council:—

Cholderton (Cholderton Water Company).

Tilshead and Figcheldean (supplies taken in bulk from the War Department).

Samples of water taken from each of the above supplies have been found to be of satisfactory bacteriological quality.

The following table gives details of the estimated number of dwelling houses and caravans and the estimated population in each parish supplied from public water mains. This table does not take into account Service personnel and premises occupied by them, nor does it include properties obtaining piped water from private estates supplies.

There are no public standpipes in the district.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Estimated Total Population</i>	<i>Estimated number of Dwelling Houses and Caravans connected direct to Public Piped Water Supplies</i>	<i>Estimated popu- lation supplied from Public Water Mains direct to Houses and Caravans</i>
Allington	375	100	340
Amesbury	4,450	1,243	4,380
Bulford	655	200	655
Cholderton	205	66	205*
Durnford	400	80	300
Durrington	2,820	815	2,800
Figheldean	800	215	760*
Idmiston	1,750	363	1,370
Milston	250	82	250*
Newton Tony	350	65	230
Orcheston	300	96	270
Shrewton	1,400	373	1,300
Tilshead	300	93	300*
Wilsford-cum-Lake	160	8	20
Winterbourne	1,900	340	1,150
Winterbourne Stoke	220	52	190
Woodford	400	114	350
Total	16,735	4,325	14,870

*Includes population supplied from mains owned by Cholderton Water Company or by Government Departments.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Amesbury

This scheme has worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

Samples of the effluent have been taken regularly and all have proved satisfactory.

Bulford and Durrington

This scheme, which also serves the military area of Bulford Camp, has worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

Extensions have been made to serve the new housing estates in both parishes.

Samples of the effluent have been taken regularly and all have proved satisfactory.

Shrewton

During the year it was reported that subsoil water was infiltrating into the sewer in High Street. In view of the recent construction of this sewer the Council was greatly concerned by this report and it was resolved to investigate the cause and to carry out any works necessary to exclude subsoil water from the system. This work was completed at the end of the year and the Engineer's report on the cause was awaited.

The work of connecting properties to the sewers proceeded slowly throughout the year and the Council found it necessary to serve notices on the owners of thirteen properties requiring them to provide satisfactory means of drainage and water closet accommodation.

Figcheldean and Milston

This scheme came into operation in the early part of the year. The sewage from Figcheldean is drained to the pumping station at Avon Banks and is then pumped as far as Milston. From this point it gravitates to Durrington where it is siphoned under the River Avon and finally discharges into the Bulford and Durrington system.

Excellent progress was made with the connection of properties to this system.

Bourne Valley Scheme

As the result of the Council's efforts to purchase the land required in connection with the sewage works site for this scheme proving unsuccessful, the Council resolved to make a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of this land. Application was made to the Minister for confirmation of this Order in view of the fact that this scheme is long overdue, and is also urgently necessary to enable works of modernisation to be carried out to thirty-four Council houses in the parish of Winterbourne, and to serve extensive private

development being erected in this part of the district. The Minister was asked to give the matter his immediate attention and his decision was awaited at the end of the year.

The urgent need for this scheme has been stressed in my reports for earlier years and the need becomes more acute with the passing of time.

Other Schemes

The Council has further investigated the possibility of providing a sewerage scheme for the parish of Tilshead, and have now been informed that the War Department has approved in principle the transfer of the War Department Sewage Disposal Works to the Council, subject to terms to be negotiated.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

There has been no change in the milk supply to the district during the year. The bulk of the milk consumed is pasteurised and is processed at, and supplied from, the milk factory at Amesbury. In one or two parishes there is still a demand for Designated Raw Milk.

Samples of milk have been taken regularly from all the registered distributors in the district, including producer/retailers. A total of 202 samples were submitted for the statutory tests and for biological examination.

The following table shows the number of samples submitted for each examination, together with the results:—

<i>Designated Raw Milk</i>			<i>Biological Examination</i>			<i>Pasteurised Milk</i>		
<i>No. of Samples Taken</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>No. of Samples Taken</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>No. of Samples Taken</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>
60	54	6	48	48	—	Bottles 66	63	3
						Cartons 28	27	1
								— 4

When unsatisfactory reports were received in respect of samples of raw milk, the producers were interviewed and advised on methods to ensure cleanliness in production, and repeat samples proved satisfactory.

During the year 86 samples of bottle washings were submitted for tests, of which 79 were found to be satisfactory. Following the receipt of unsatisfactory reports, further visits were made to ascertain the cause.

There is only one Registered Dairy in the district. The number of Registered Milk Distributors and Dealers licensed to sell milk under special designations is as follows:—

Registered Milk Distributors in district ...	...	12
Dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised Milk (pre-packed) ...	...	12
Dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk ...		2

Other Foods

Following consideration of a complaint as to the presence of a foreign body in a loaf of bread, the Council sent a warning letter to the firm concerned.

Slaughter Houses

No slaughtering of animals for human consumption takes place within the district, the butchers obtaining their supplies of meat from the abattoir in the City of Salisbury, where excellent facilities exist for the slaughter, dressing and inspection of all animals intended for this purpose.

There is one licensed Knackers Yard in the district, and periodic visits have shown the general condition to be satisfactory.

Food Premises

The general standard of food premises in the district remains satisfactory, and in a number of instances considerable improvements have been effected.

The number of types of food premises in the area are as follows:—

Hotels and Licensed Premises	...	...	37
Grocers	...	...	39
Bakers	...	...	7
Butchers	...	...	10
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	11
Confectionery	...	...	18
Greengrocery	...	...	4
Fried Fish	...	...	3
Fishmongers	...	...	2
			<hr/>
			132
			<hr/>

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

There is no manufacture of ice-cream in the district. Routine inspections of the premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream have shown that the Regulations are being complied with.

The number of types of food premises registered under section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are as follows:—

Storage and/or Sale of Ice-Cream	...	...	87
Sausage Making	...	...	5

Meat and Other Foods Condemned during 1963

The quantity of meat and other foods condemned during 1963 as being unfit for human consumption is given below:—

Bacon	8½ lbs.
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Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

The periodic inspections made of premises licensed by the Council for the boiling of waste foods have revealed that the requirements of the Order are being observed.

At the end of the year there were in the district 13 premises licensed under the above Order.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1963 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY IN THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1—*Inspections* for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	67	39	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	67	39	—	—

2—Cases in which *Defects* were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	—	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	2	—	1	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

(Sections 133 and 134)

NIL RETURN

